

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

One may think that the above-described problem of failure to stop the unwanted hard x-rays could be solved by increasing the thickness of the pinhole disk. However, making a 20  $\mu$ m untapered ~~through hole~~through-hole in a single thick metal disk involves considerable technical limitations and pinhole disks fabricated by the conventional pinhole making technology has been unsuitable for the development of hard x-ray microscopes using the FZP.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

In the next step, a plurality of such pinhole disks are superposed and bonded or welded together. Fig. 3 shows an exemplary case in which two pinhole disks are superposed. The position in which these two pinhole disks are to be fixed is determined by inserting a straight wire, fiber, pin, etc. through the pinholes so that their positions will not be offset. A microscope is used to view the pinholes containing the wire, fiber, or pin to bring the positions of the pinholes into alignment.